

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

8 OCTOBER 1962

~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Congo

a. In a final round of talks with Tshombé last weekend, Under Secretary McGhee obtained about all that he feels could be expected at present in the way of commitments from Tshombé.

b. Tshombé promised prompt action on: a cease-fire accord; reopening of land communications to Leopoldville; facilitating movement of UN supplies into Katanga; speeding up work of the Leopoldville-Katangan commissions.

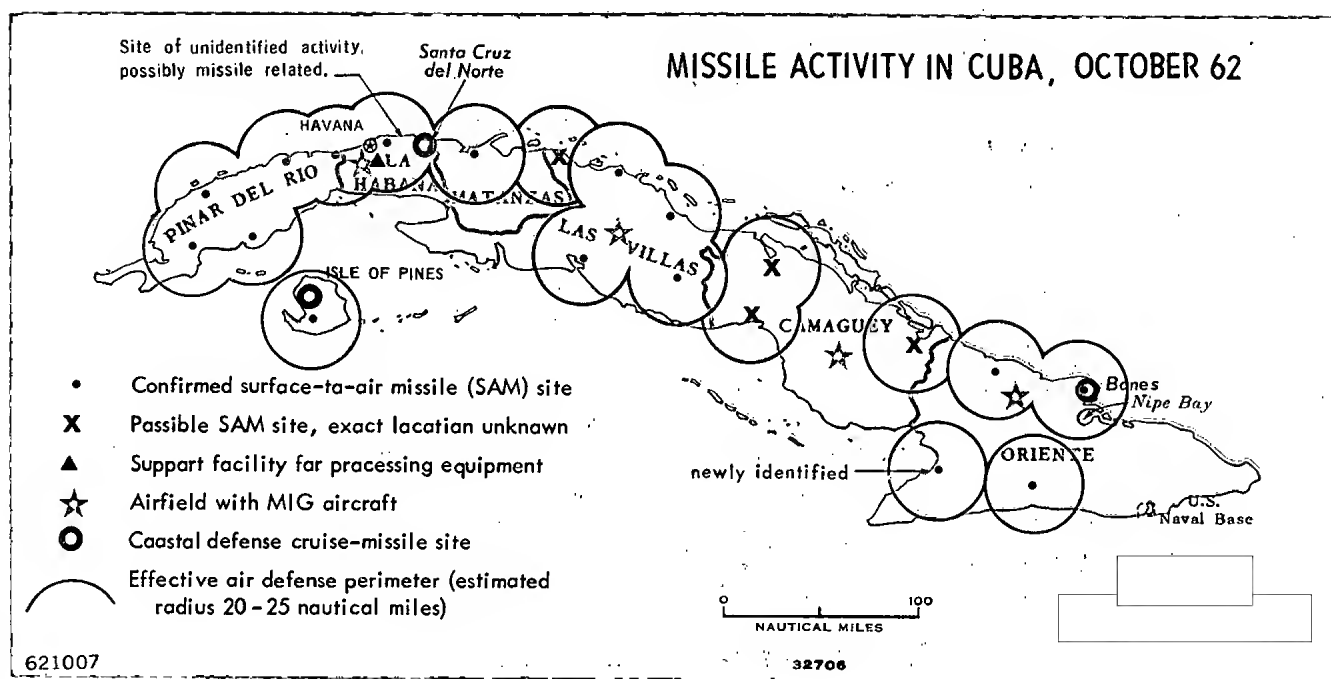
c. These things he says he will do without waiting for agreement on a new constitution, which he has previously insisted must come first.

d. Tshombé still mistrusts Adoula and the UN, cannot stomach the draft constitution, and boggles over a 50-50 split of Union Minière revenues. McGhee is not confident he will live up to the commitments he has made.



50X1


f. Adoula, who has little faith that the UN plan will work out, has made another pitch to us for transport aircraft and pilots. He hints he will get them from the Soviets if we do not come across.



(b)(1)
(b)(1)





g. Gardiner, UN chief in the Congo, says Adoula is now worried over the possibility of new secessionist moves in other provinces. He already has some politicians under house arrest

50X1

h. 
Tshombé has for some weeks been working behind the scenes to "persuade" influential tribesmen throughout the country to work toward "federation" on his terms. Yesterday, he gleefully showed McGhee some documentary evidence of his success.

50X1

2. Cuba

a.  a 
surface-to-air missile site 
 in Oriente Province.

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

3. Yemen

a. Tribal resistance is sharpening. The tribes are not yet well-coordinated. [REDACTED]

50X1

They have scored some points in the north and east.

b. [REDACTED] Russian pilots have been trapped at one besieged garrison since their arrival [REDACTED] by helicopter to deliver pay to the unit there. Their helicopter was captured by the tribesmen [REDACTED]

50X1
50X1

50X1

50X1

c. The regime is intent on convincing everyone that it is in full control. This has influenced Western reporting from Sana. [REDACTED]

50X1

d. The Egyptians may be getting cold feet. Cairo yesterday recalled its aircraft which have been operating in Yemen. [REDACTED]

50X1

e. Nevertheless, Egyptian naval movements southward through the canal are continuing. [REDACTED]

50X1

f. The battle is about to be carried into the UN.

50X1

4. Laos

a. Souvanna yesterday publicly noted that the deadline for troop withdrawal had arrived, saying, "All foreign military units which were declared to have been in Laos have departed from the territory." He added that he had "reason to believe" the countries which sent troops in "will ensure with diligence that the last stragglers leave with a minimum possible delay."

b. He attributed the continued presence of "stragglers" to difficulties of distance and terrain.

c. Although this is not exactly what he had earlier indicated he would say (there is no reference to future verification by the ICC), it is at least a strong hint that he considers the Vietnamese still have a way to go.

50X1

e. As expected, the assembly yesterday voted Souvanna full powers to govern for one year.

5. South Vietnam

a. Diem has turned thumbs down on our suggestion that he take the initiative in a concerted move to improve relations with his country's neighbors.

b. He will propose a joint border commission with Cambodia, but he feels other conciliatory moves would be viewed as dealing from weakness.

c. He is adamant on the question of recognition in Laos.

6. Yugoslavia

a. Belgrade has been restrained so far in its reaction to Congressional denial of most favored nation treatment for Yugoslavia.

b. Yugoslav officials apparently hope the decision will be reversed later.

c. In any case, new agreements with Moscow and Eastern Europe will improve Yugoslavia's trade situation.

NOTES

A.

[Redacted]

50X2

- B. Venezuela A two-hour firefight erupted on the outskirts of Caracas last night in the most severe terrorist action of the recently stepped-up campaign. This will increase already strong pressure from the military for Betancourt to take forceful action.
- C. EEC The Common Market ministerial meeting opens today with all but France willing to press for Britain's admittance but none prepared to make important concessions to this end.
- D. Brazil Elections have passed without major incident. It will be a week or more before returns are in and final results known.